

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 REYKJA 01148 071933Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 CG-00

DLOS-04 DOTE-00 EB-07 COME-00 OFA-01 /081 W

----- 022586

R 071618Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5706

INFO CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 1148

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EFIS IC UK

SUBJECT: ICELANDERS SAY UK THREAT DIMINISHES CHANCES FOR FISHERIES  
PACT

1. ALLEGED THREATS TO ICELAND BY UK ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTER ANTHONY CROSLAND OVER FISHERIES QUESTION HAVE BEEN CONDEMNED HERE AS SERIOUS IMPEDIMENT TO POSSIBLE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF ISSUE.

2. CROSLAND'S REPORTED INSISTENCE IN OCTOBER 4 SPEECH THAT BRITISH FISHERMEN WOULD CONTINUE TO FISH IN ICELANDIC WATERS EVEN WITHOUT NEW UK-ICELAND AGREEMENT WAS WIDELY DENOUNCED BY PRESS AND GOI OFFICIALS, WHO REJECTED ANY UK ASSERTION OF RIGHTS IN ICELAND'S CLAIMED FISHERIES JURISDICTION IN ABSENCE OF GOI AUTHORIZATION. SUBSEQUENT REPORTS IN LOCAL PRESS THAT FCO HAD REPRESENTED CROSLAND'S REMARKS AS OFFICIAL BRITISH POLICY HAVE ONLY FUELED OUTRAGE. PARTICULARLY OFFENSIVE TO ICELANDERS WAS CROSLAND'S REPORTED WARNING THAT GOI SHOULD BE UNDER NO MISAPPREHENSION REGARDING HMG'S  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 REYKJA 01148 071933Z

DETERMINATION TO SAFEGUARD ITS RIGHTS. THIS REMARK, SAID MORGUNBLADID

DAILY OF PM'S INDEPENDENCE PARTY, "SEEMS TO BE THREAT THAT UK WILL SEND WARSHIPS INTO ICELANDIC WATERS." PAPER WENT ON THAT THERE IS NOW VERY LITTLE CHANCE OF REACHING NEW FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH UK BEFORE CURRENT ONE RUNS OUT NOVEMBER 13.

3. REACTION BY LEADERS OF BOTH GOVERNING PARTIES WAS SWIFT AND NEGATIVE. COMMENTS AS REPORTED IN PRESS INCLUDE FOLLOWING:

--PRIME MINISTER GEIR HALLGRIMSSON: "OBVIOUSLY WE MAINTAIN THAT BRITISH HAVE NO RIGHT TO FISH INSIDE 200 MILES AFTER OCTOBER 15 EXTENSION IN ABSENCE OF AGREEMENT WITH US. WE EXPECT TO NEGOTIATE WITH BRITISH AND DETERMINE HOW MUCH THEY WANT AGREEMENT. IF THEY DON'T WANT ONE ANY MORE THAN CROSLAND'S REMARKS INDICATE THEN IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ONE WILL BE REACHED."

--FOREIGN MINISTER EINAR AGUSTSSON: "IF BRITISH THINK THIS IS WAY TO REACH FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH US THEY ARE MISTAKEN. WE WILL NOT ALLOW THREATS TO INFLUENCE OUR DECISION TO EXTEND ICELAND'S FISHERIES JURISDICTION TO 200 MILES."

--PROGRESSIVE PARTY CHAIRMAN AND COMMERCE/JUSTICE MINISTER OLAFUR JOHANNESSON: "I MAINTAIN AS I HAVE FROM THE START THAT THEY HAVE NO LEGAL RIGHTS." (JOHANNESSON, HOWEVER, ADDED ONLY CONCILIATORY RESPONSE HEARD THUS FAR, SAYING THAT ICELAND SHOULD NOT BE UNDULY INFLUENCED BY CROSLAND'S STATEMENT IN ITSELF.)

--FISHERIES MINISTER MATTHIAS BJARNASON: "I FAIL TO SEE HOW SUCH UNDISGUISED THREATS CAN CONTRIBUTE TO AGREEMENT, I REJECT COMPLETELY (CLAIM) THAT BRITISH HAVE ANY TRADITIONAL RIGHTS HERE."

4. EVEN BEFORE CROSLAND REMARKS, OPINION HERE HAD BEEN RUNNING STRONGLY AGAINST FISHERIES CONCESSIONS TO FOREIGNERS, ESPECIALLY WITHIN 50 MILES. AMONG MOST RECENT EXPRESSIONS OF THIS VIEW WAS EDITORIAL IN PROGRESSIVE PARTY'S DAILY TIMINN OCTOBER 5 (THOUGH WRITTEN 2-3 DAYS EARLIER) BY EDITOR AND ALTHING FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN THORARINN THORARINSSON ENTITLED "DO BRITISH WANT A COD WAR?" WHICH CONCLUDED, "THE CATCH BY FOREIGN FISHERMEN IN THIS (50-MILE) ZONE MUST BE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED COMPLETELY. THE FOREIGN FISHERMEN MUST LEAVE. AS LONG AS BRITISH DO NOT UNDERSTAND THIS, THERE IS NO CHANCE OF ANY AGREEMENT FOR BRITISH TRAWLERS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 REYKJA 01148 071933Z

AROUND ICELAND."  
MARTIN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ALLEGATIONS, THREATS, FISHING AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, FISHING LIMITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975REYKJA01148  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750348-0580  
**From:** REYKJAVIK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751074/aaaacnxq.tel  
**Line Count:** 109  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchant0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 NOV 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 NOV 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2004 by buchant0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ICELANDERS SAY UK THREAT DIMINISHES CHANCES FOR FISHERIES PACT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EFIS, UK, IC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006